## 3 January 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING DIRECTOR

SUBJECT :

CIA Representation on the Ball Committee

(Foreign Aid)

REFERENCE:

Memorandum from Mr. Knoche, 30 December 1963

- 1. This memorandum is for information.
- 2. 30 far as the Ball Committee's deliberations require information on foreign situations, a strong case could be made that the Agency is in a position to provide useful substantive judgments, and should be represented. The case would be stronger if the Committee's work is going to continue over a long period; if it is going to wind up its business and make its report by 15 January, as widely reported, there is scarcely time for us to make much of a substantive impact.
- 3. I am inclined to coubt, however, that substantive questions of positive foreign intelligence will in any event loom very large in the Committee's deliberations. Its most important problems would appear to be primarily ones of policy and politics, foreign and domestic, rather than intelligence.



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In most cases, the intelligence facts of the situation are already available or are being continuously reported, analyzed, and estimated through existing publications and mechanisms. Where additional intelligence support is desired, Offices of the Agency stand ready to respond to any special request levied upon them -- whether for national estimates or other reports or analyses -- without need of establishing new procedures.

- 4. Purely on the grounds of substantive intelligence input to the work of the Committee, I feel therefore that formal Agency participation would be unnecessary -- and hence undesirable.
- procedure for defending the Agency's interests when budgetary and organizational matters (including cover problems) are at issue. If these arguments are deemed to outweigh the purely intelligence considerations discussed earlier, it would follow that some form of Agency participation would be desirable. If so, the nature of the Committee, and the heavy ingredient of policy and politics in its work, suggest that Agency participation take the form of appointing a limison officer rather than requesting full membership. If, as I anticipate, much of the Agency's concern will relate to administrative and T/O questions about overseas missions, CIA's man should be from the DD/P.

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6. With respect to how extensively Mational Estimates are used by policy-makers responsible for developing aid programs, in the course of several soundings over the years we have received widely varying answers. The fact is that consumer laterest is uneven and differs widely as between individuals. Requests for National Estimates frequently originate in AID and in ISA, and we know that MIEs are taken very seriously in some offices charged with aid policy in both State and the Pentagon. Frobably in others they are ignored or brushed aside unless they help make a case already decided on. In any case, the quarterly projection of the estimates program gives all interested parties a chance to make known their needs.

SEEMAN KENT Assistant Director National Estimates

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